Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 04389 01 OF 02 311720Z ACTION NEA-11

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8281
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 5615
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 KABUL 4389

CORRECTEDCOPY (PARA 7)

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, AF

AMEMBASSY USLO

SUBJECT: TEXT OF TARAKI'S INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI CORRESPONDENT

REF: KABUL 4349

- 1. FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAKI'S INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI JOURNALIST BADWA FAMI, WHICH WE ANALYZED IN REFTEL.
- 2. BEGIN TEXT. "NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAKI, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AND PRIME MINISTER OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN GRANTED AN INTERVIEW TO KUWAITI JOURNALIST BADWA FAMI, AT THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS. UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 KABUL 04389 01 OF 02 311720Z

3. THE KUWAITI JOURNALIST EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR HAVING BEEN GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO INTERVIEW THE CHAIRMAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AND PRIME MINISTER. NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAKI ANSWERED THE QUESTIONS OF THE KUWAITI JOURNALIST IN A FULLY FREE AND DEMOCRATIC ATMOSPHERE.

- 4. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE INTERVIEW OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AND PRIME MINISTER OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN WITH THE KUWAITI JOURNALIST:
- 5. Q: THE ARAB AND MUSLIM WORLD IS WORRIED ABOUT ISLAM IN AFGHANISTAN. DO YOU THINK ISLAM IS SAFE IN YOUR COUNTRY?
- 6. A: I WONDER HOW YOU CAN REPRESENT THE ARAB WORLD AND ISLAM WHILE VIRTUALLY ALL ISLAMIC STATES HAVE RECOGNIZED THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN, AND SOME OF THEM HAVE EVEN SENT ME FRIENDLY AND BROTHERLY NESSAGES. IN SO FAR AS I AM INFORMED, EXCEPT FOR AN INSIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF FUNCTIONARIES OF INTERNATIONAL REACTION, THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE TOILING MUSLIM AND ARAB PEOPLES HAVE WARMLY WELCOMED THE GREAT AND DEMOCRATIC AND NATIONAL REVOLUTION OF AFGHANISTAN.

7 IN REGARD TO THE SAFEGUARDING OF ISLAM IN AFGHANISTAN, I DECLARE WITH COURAGE THAT THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN IN ADHERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF ISLAM STAND AT THE VANGUARD. IT IS THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN THEMSELVES WHO PRESERVE THEIR RELIGION (THE ISLAMIC RELIGION) AND THEIR DESIRABLE 'NATIONAL TRADITIONS BETTER THAN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 KABUL 04389 01 OF 02 311720Z

ANY 'KINDER THAN MOTHER GOVERNESS'. THOSE WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT ISLAM IN AFGHANISTAN, WOULD DO BETTER TO TO DEVOTE MORE ATTENTION TO FREEDOM, JUSTICE, PROGRESS AND WELLBEING OF THEIR TOILING PEOPLE, RATHER THAN EXPRESSING CONCERN IN REGARD TO THE AFFAIRS OF THE FREE STATE OF AFGHANISTAN.

- 8. Q: IS IT TRUE THAT ONE OF THE MULLAHS WAS KILLED OR ARRESTED?
- 9. A: I DO NOT KNOW OF ANY MULLAH HAVING BEEN KILLED OR IMPRISONED, NONETHELESS IT OUGHT TO BE NOTED THAT EVERY PERSON AND EVERY POWER THAT WISHES TO CONFRONT THE PARTRIOTIC REVOLUTIONARY FORCES OF AFGHANISTAN.
- 10. Q: DO YOU THINK IT IS POSSIBLE TO BE MUSLIM AND MARXIST AT THE SAME TIME?
- 11. A: THIS IS A SCIENTIFIC MATTER. SO FAR AS THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF AFGHANISTAN AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN ARE CONCERNED, THIS TERM WAS NOT AT ISSUE.

12. Q: HOW DO YOU SEE THE FUTURE OF ISLAM IN THIS COUNTRY?

13. A: THE FUTURE OF ISLAM IN OUR COUNTRY IS CLEAR. SEVERAL YEARS HENCEFORTH WHEN YOU REVISIT OUR COUNTRY YOU WILL FIND THE MOST UNADULTERATED ISLAM IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN; AN ISLAM WHICH WILL NEVER BE MISUSED FOR MATERIAL AND PERSONAL GAINS OF DESPOTS AND EXPLOITERS.

14. Q: DO YOU THINK YOUR POLICIES WILL ULTIMATELY TURN TO COMMUNISM?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 KABUL 04389 01 OF 02 311720Z

15. A: OUR REVOLUTION AND OUR STATE IS A DEMOCRATIC AND NATIONAL REVOLUTION AND A DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN STATE. OUR POLICIES ARE BASED ON DEMOCRATIC AND NATIONAL PRINCIPLES, AS STIPULATED IN POLICY AND BASIC LINES OF OUR REVOLUTIONARY DUTIES.

16. Q: IN THE ARAB WORLD WE HAVE DEBATES ABOUT MODERNI-SATION OF ISLAM. DO YOU HAVE ANY THOUGHTS ABOUT THIS?

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PAGE 01 KABUL 04389 02 OF 02 310912Z ACTION NEA-11

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 KABUL 4389

17. A: I COME TO KNOW THE TERM OF MODERNISATION OF ISLAM FROM YOU; I AM OF THE OPINION THAT WE MUST NOT LET ISLAM BECOME A MEANS FOR THE REACTIONARIES, DESPOTS AND EXPLOITERS.

18. Q: WHY HAVE THE FOREIGN NEWS AGENCIES BRANDED YOU AS A COMMUNIST?

19. A: FORCES OF REACTION AND IMPERIALISM, BY VIRTUE OF HABIT, STRIKE ON PARTRIOTIC AND PROGRESSIVE ELEMENTS UNDER THE PRETEXT OF BEING 'COMMUNIST'. THE WORLD NOW KNOWS THAT WHOEVER SPEAKS OF NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE. FREEDOM OF THE PEOPLE, DEMOCRACY, PROGRESS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PROSPERITY OF THE TOILING, IS IMMEDIATELY BRANDED A COMMUNIST'.

20. Q: YOU SAID THAT YOU ARE A DEMOCRATIC REGIME; WHICH WAY OF DEMOCRACY WILL YOU CHOOSE, BECAUSE THEY UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 KABUL 04389 02 OF 02 310912Z

USE THE SAME WORD IN ALL THE WORLD, EAST AND WEST?

- 21. A: THE DEMOCRACY WHICH OUR DEMOCRATIC REGIME BELIEVES IN CONSTITUTES A DEMOCRACY FOR DEMOCRATIC CLASSES AND STRATA OF THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN, I.E., WORKERS, PEASANTS, INTELLIGENTSIA, THOSE ENGAGED IN TRADES, BUSINESSMEN AND NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURS.
- 22. Q: OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT YOUR REVOLUTION IS PRO-SOVIET THE USSR RECOGNIZED YOUR REGIME WITHIN A HALF-HOUR. THEY HAVE NOTICED THAT YOUR FIRST TWO DELEGATES OUTSIDE WENT TO THE USSR AND CUBA.
- 23. A: OUR REVOLUTION IS PRO-TOILING CLASSES OF AFGHANISTAN. THE SOVIET UNION AFTER THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION WAS ALWAYS, AND WILL BE A FRIEND OF THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN. THE SOVIET UNION WAS THE FIRST COUNTRY TO RECOGNIZE THE INDEPENDENCE OF AFGHANISTAN, AND WAS AND IS THE FIRST COUNTRY WHICH EXTENDED AND EXTENDS UNCONDITIONAL AND DISINTERESTED ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN. IT WAS THE FIRST COUNTRY TO RECOGNIZE THE REPUBLIC OF SARATAN 26, 1352, (JULY 17, 1973), AND IT WAS THE FIRST COUNTRY TO RECOGNIZE THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN, BUT NOT IN HALF AN HOUR, AFTER ALMOST 100 HOURS. OUR DELEGATION WENT TO CUBA THROUGH

THE SOVIET UNION SO THAT AFGHANISTAN AS A NON-ALIGNED COUNTRY WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE HAVANA MEETING OF THE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU MINISTERIAL MEETING, WHICH PRIOR TO THE REVOLUTION OF SAUR 7 (APRIL 27) WAS TO BE HELD IN KABUL. THERE WAS NOT ANY OTHER REASON BEYOND THAT.

24. Q: THE FRONT WHICH YOU MENTIONED IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE, AS ONE OF YOUR PARTY'S REQUESTS BEFORE THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 KABUL 04389 02 OF 02 310912Z

REVOLUTION. ARE YOU GOING TO BUILD IT NOW, WITH THE MUSLIM MOVEMENTS, AND THE 'SHOALY JAWID' (PROCHINESE) PARTY?

25. A: WE HAVE DECLARED UNITY OF ACTION, WITHOUT EXCEPTION AND DISCRIMINATION, WITH ALL PATRIOTIC ELEMENTS AND FORCES IN OUR COUNTRY WHO SHARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE REVOLUTION OF SAUR 7.

26. Q: ARE YOU GOING TO START ANY CONTACTS WITH THE ARAB AND MUSLIM WORLD?

27. A: WE FAVOR FRIENDSHIP AND BROTHERHOOD WITH ALL BROTHER ARAB AND MUSLIM PEOPLES.

28. Q: DO YOU THINK THAT SOMETHING LIKE EUROCOMMUNISM WILL HAPPEN IN ASIA?

29. A: SO FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED, OUR PARTY, BY THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF AFGHANISTAN, EXECUTES ITS REVOLUTIONARY AND PARTRIOTIC DUTIES TOWARDS THE TOILING PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRY INDEPENDENTLY. END OF TEXT. ELIOT

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